

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-8 and 18-20 remain pending in the present application. Claims 9-16 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 6-8 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 18 to define that the spring force distribution end is in contact with the first bleed plate. Applicant believes that claiming a single spring fixed in a slot of the piston rod patentably distinguishes over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 9-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Deferme (U.S. Pat. No. 6,371,264). Claims 9-17 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tamaru, et al. (JP 06185562). Claims 9-17 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By. 

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